
Correspondence: Mrs. John P. Varnum
(Josephine L. Dyer "Josie"), 1871 - 1888

John P. Varnum Family Papers

1-25-1884

Letter: Mrs. Josephine L. Dyer Varnum to her aunt Celia, January 25, 1884

Josephine L. Dyer Varnum

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Jacksonville Jan. 26th 1884

Dear Aunt Celia:

I think it is about your
turn on my list now. I have just put
away my sewing - an apron for Gracie -
and feel like scribbling a bit before I go
to bed though past nine by standard time.

You seem to have had a graceful winter
up there. I hardly see how you get along
with your work in such dreary weather.
I never know as cold a winter here, the
leaves have fallen from the orange trees as
they do from trees at the North and it really
looks quite winterish. Carrie asked
me if I had rented my rooms, we have
let two one at \$5. the other at \$10. per month
unfurnished. Cordia has the other and
the rooms over the kitchen we use for trunk
and storerooms. Mrs. De Witt has rented
here but I think she had to come down

a little in price. I wish you could come down here for a winter I think you would enjoy it. Though there are lots of out about life here unless one has plenty of money. One can be very independent though. My "W" lodger Miss Storr - takes her meals at a "select" boarding-house and pays \$7 (seven) per week board she has a washing bill besides and when the buttons rip off her dresses she takes them to the dressmaker and has them sewed on, she buys her underclothing ready-made and she spends her time going down town or doing a little painting she tells me sometimes that "it seems as if some people didn't have anything to trouble them". She supposes it must be because they are so empty-headed.

I think I could be empty-headed if I could sit in a Willow rocker and kick my heels I know I wouldn't conjure up bugs toos to scree my face up in a knot about.

John returned from Gainesville last night he says Grace is having a nice time